

1930

# UA3/1/4 It Is Necessary For Ideals To Be In Action

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It is necessary for ideals to be in action in education in order to have ideals in action in a democracy. No student who is not a good citizen in college is likely to be a good citizen out of college. It takes more than a healthy body, more than formal education, more than degrees from higher institutions of learning, more than material success to make an American citizen. There are men who have red corpuscles in their blood who are walking encyclopedias and who have millions of dollars in the banks but who are failures when measured in terms of a successful and patriotic life, because they do not have the spirit of American citizenship, a vision of the needs of humanity, and a desire to translate these needs into community life. I do not know what this intangible spiritual force which determines every human, business, and institutional success is, but I do know it is an energy, a faith, a push and a desire in the human soul that prompts us to seek the larger service, experience, and adventures of life. It is the invisible spiritual equipment every institution of learning must have if it would succeed in being a cooperating and working unit in the social whole. Take from a college its spirit, and it would be an ideal without action, an organization without life, an engine without steam, a teacher without inspiration, and a student without vision. Take away its spirit, and it would be a dead plant, and a dying campus.

*They fail  
because they  
do not have  
that other  
thing*